Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

"PRYING BLIND" SCRAPBOOK

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Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

It a split second everything went silent and Kurt knew that it was too late to duck and besides there was no time for anything other than a blind prayer that he hoped would make it to heaven before he could deliver it in person.

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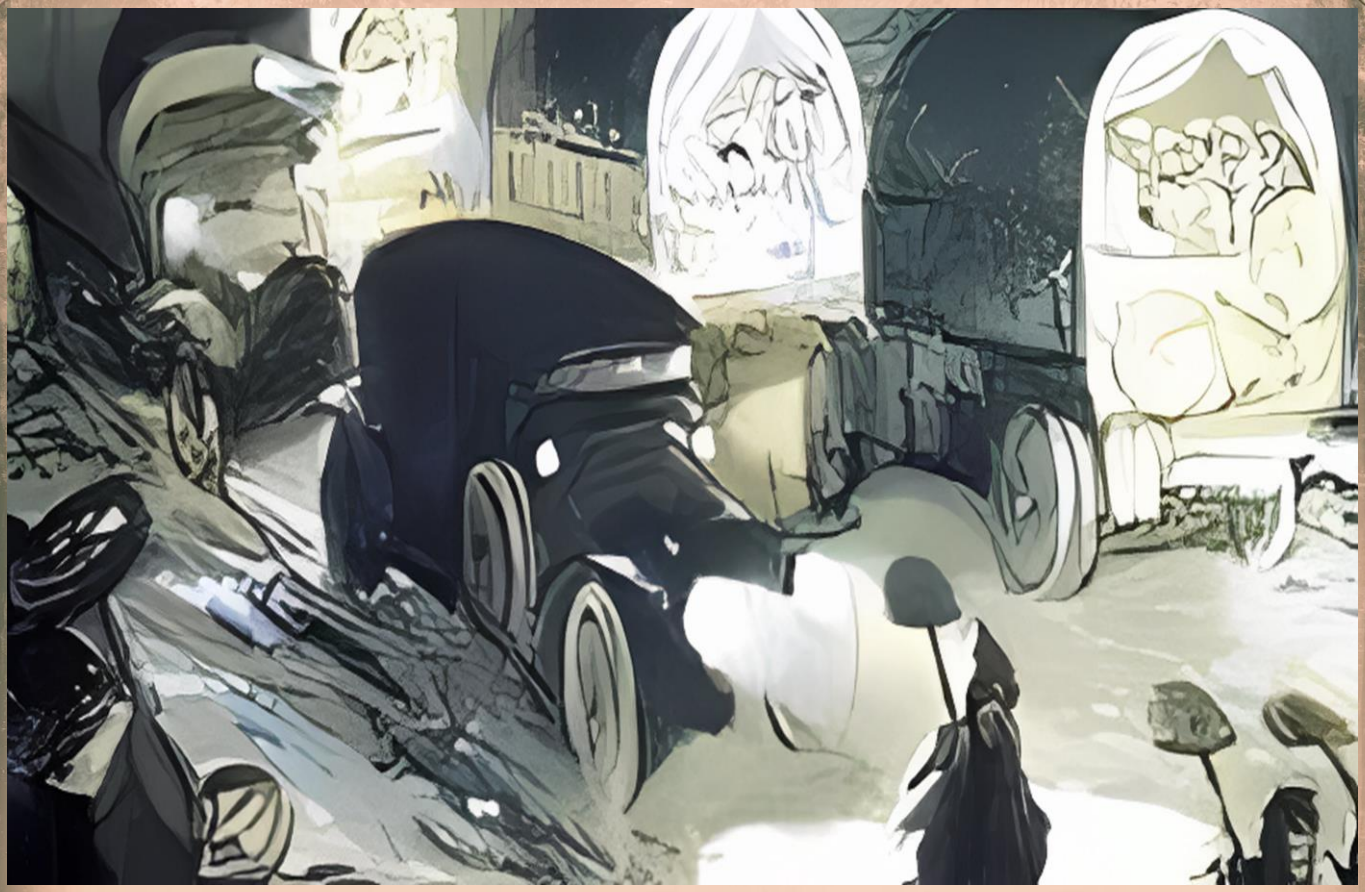
Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

The lads in his company just called him Grumpy but, in fact, he could be a boastful character with a smart wit that was always getting him in trouble with the Sargent Major.
He died today and it was left to me to write to his parents but, what do I say...what can I say?



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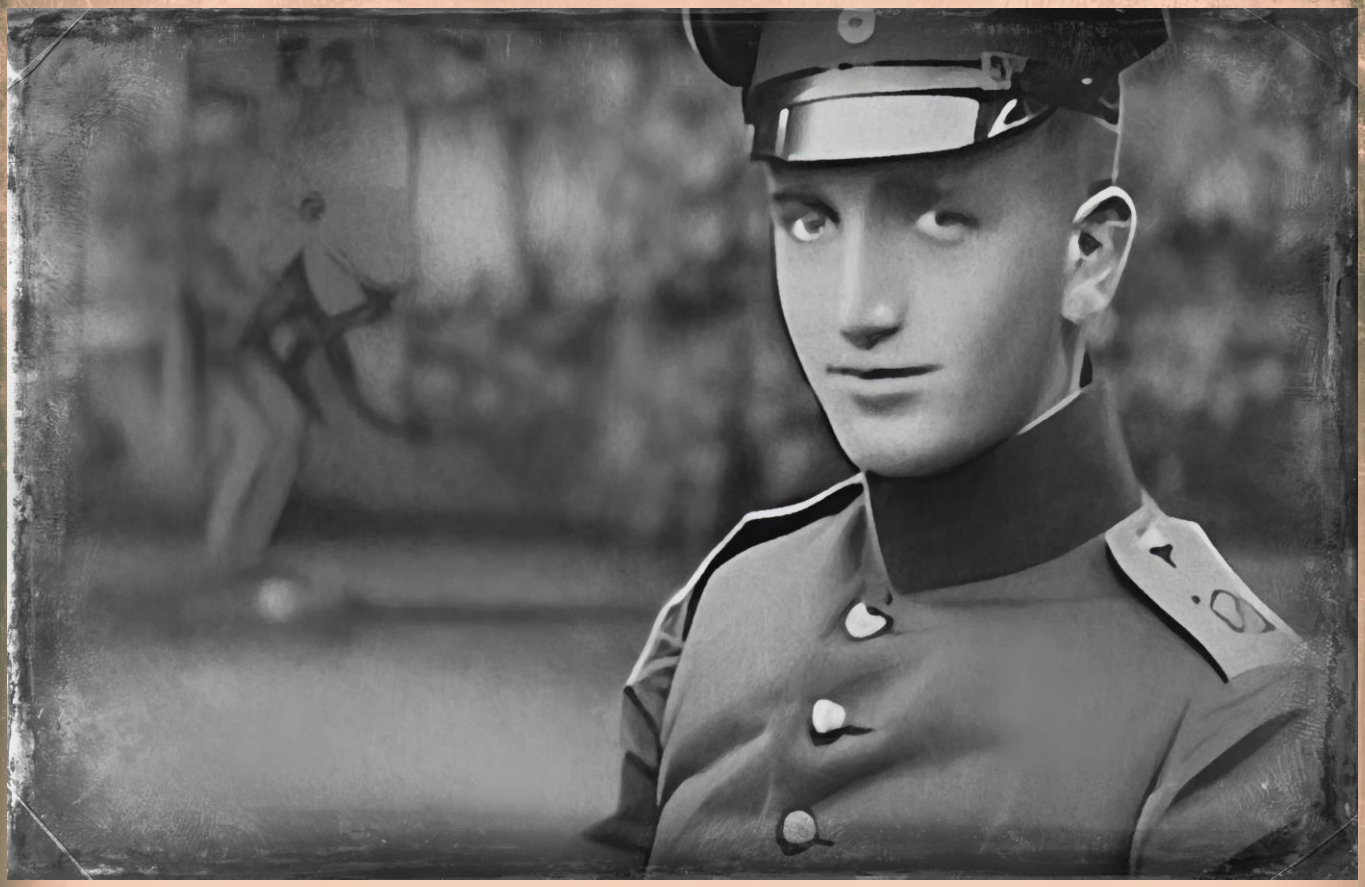

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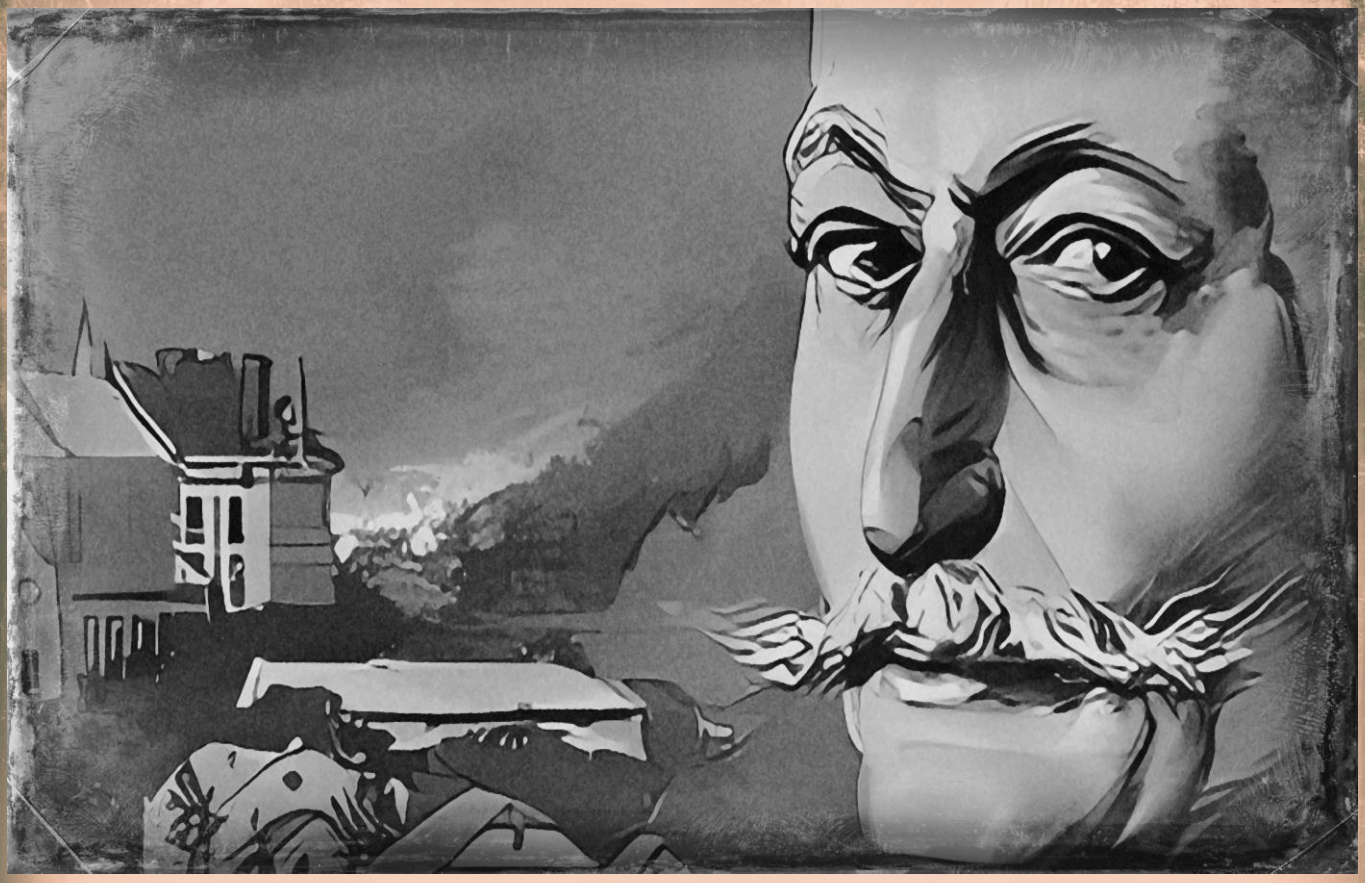
Karl was always a handsome lad and had not the war came, he might have immigrated to America to join his cousin making movies in a place called Hollywood...His cousin bragged about the money he made, the fancy car he drove and the loose women hanging on his shoulder...DAMN THIS WAR!

Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

Georgie's mom told him that it was his family's tradition as his great grandpa had fought with Napoleon, his father had fought and died fighting the Prussians; it was now his turn to bring them honor. A year later, he scolded his mom by writing that there was no honor here just misery and death.



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The Grand Marshal missed the smell of gun grease lingering on his shooting hand, he missed the call to arms and bugles blaring but, mostly his missed the opportunity to gain great press fame in a stunning victory charge regardless of the loss of life. These days, Field Marshals were not allowed at the front anymore.

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Hanz was tired of being a boy and lied to the army recruiter about his age. He was 13 but, he was a big kid and looked much older. The recruiter didn't care as he was behind on his recruitment and welcomed young Hanz to real manhood forged by the steel of combat. A year later, Hanz was already a senior sergeant.

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Sgt. Wolfgang came out of retirement with the desire to bloody a few French and an occasional Englander if necessary. He had rode in the honor guard of the Great Bismarck himself but was willing to lend a hand training the youngsters to serve the Kaiser proudly.

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Just a year ago, Major West had been minding his fine men's clothing store in Paris. He was a kind man who never sent his men on an attack that he didn't lead. His men loved the Major and grieve his untimely passing. The entire regiment came to his burial and many still drop by to visit him from time-to-time.

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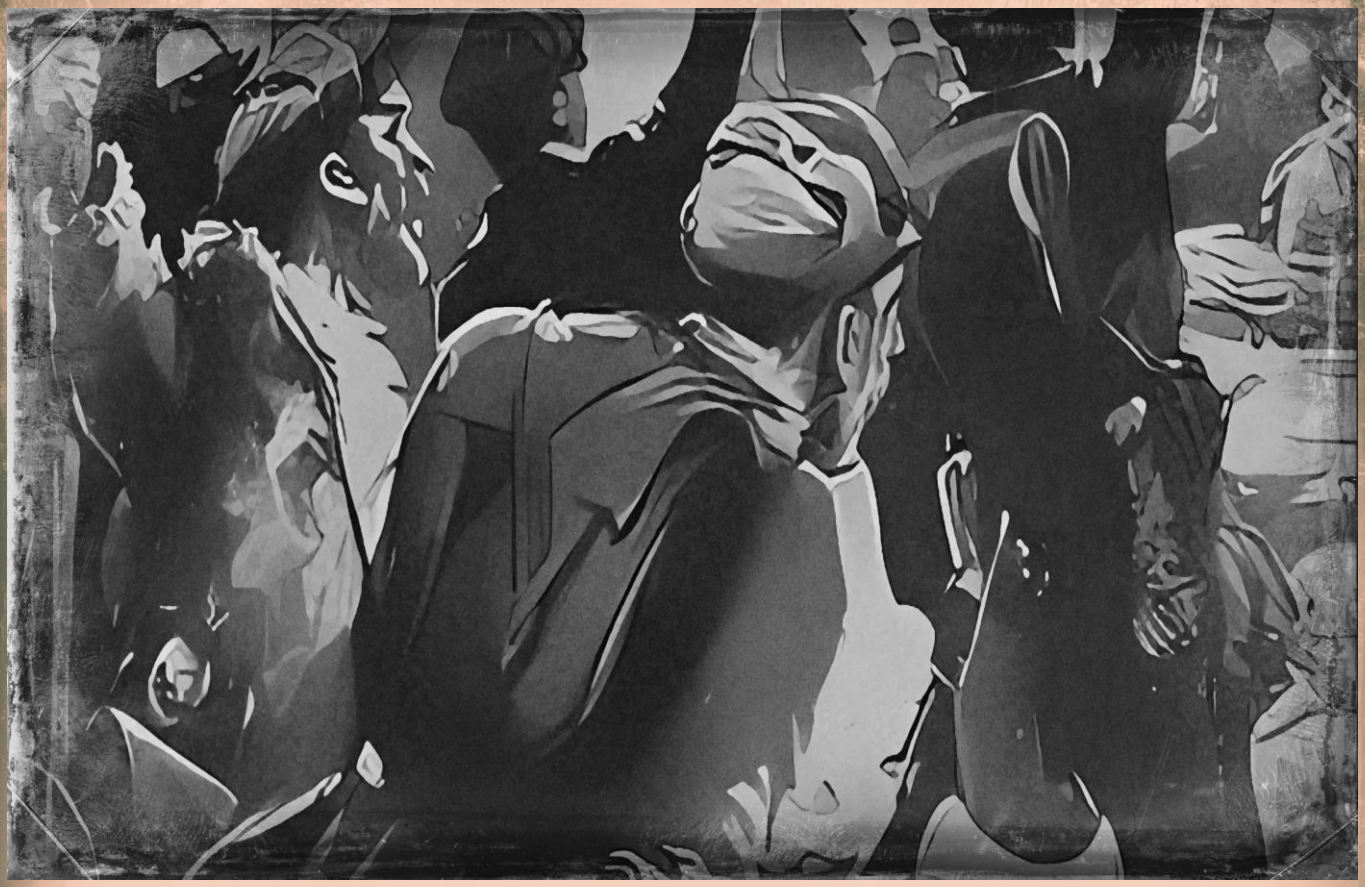
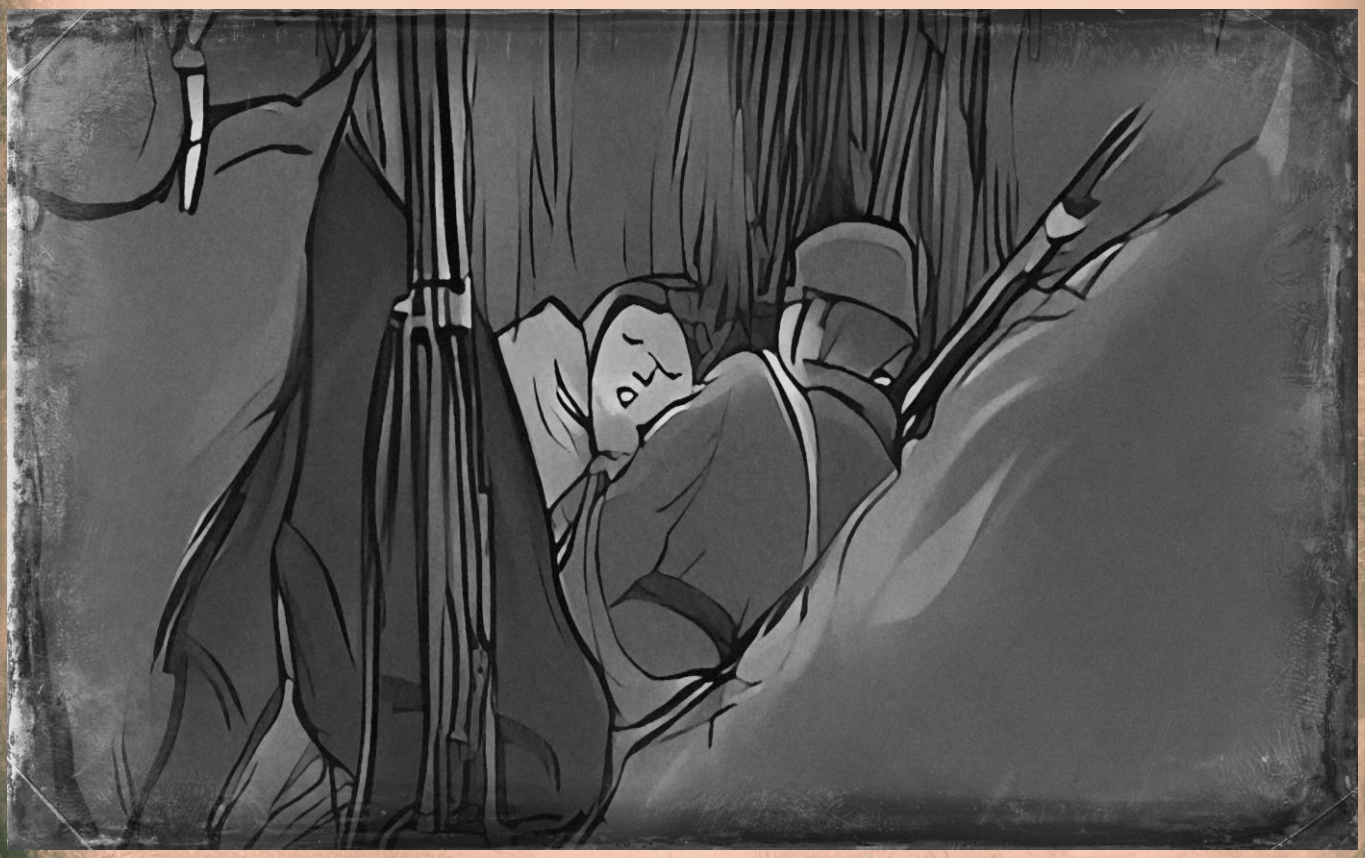
This wasn't the first time that Sargent Major Fatou thought of turning around, forget the war and head home.
The fact that he would be shot as a deserter if he tried was all that kept him from agreeing with his men to shoot the Field Marshal, declare their own peace treaty with the Germans and go home.





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Many units at the front tried their best to instill fear in the hearts of their enemies and gain the advantage like this German "Deadhead" Unit but, what their enemies quickly discovered was that bullets were an easy equalizer and so did this German Unit as they were confused as to why their enemy didn't run in fear.

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Kurt and the gang were far from real soldiers as they were but college boys who didn't have the connections to stay at school or (at least) get an easy job with the government and tried to surrender every chance that they got. This time they succeeded and were interned in a camp outside of London.

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How can I say this nicely? Herr Captain Hoffman was a most evil man. He had been a prison warden before the war and seemed to have trouble seeing a difference between his men and his former prisoners...in fact, he brought many of them with him to the front where he dangled freedom for battle victory.

Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

Private Myer was one of Captain Hoffman's men and he was never seen without a smile regardless of how bad the course of the battle became.
He was often asked why this was so and with the same smile pasted on his face; he would merely say that it was better than prison. I assume that is true?

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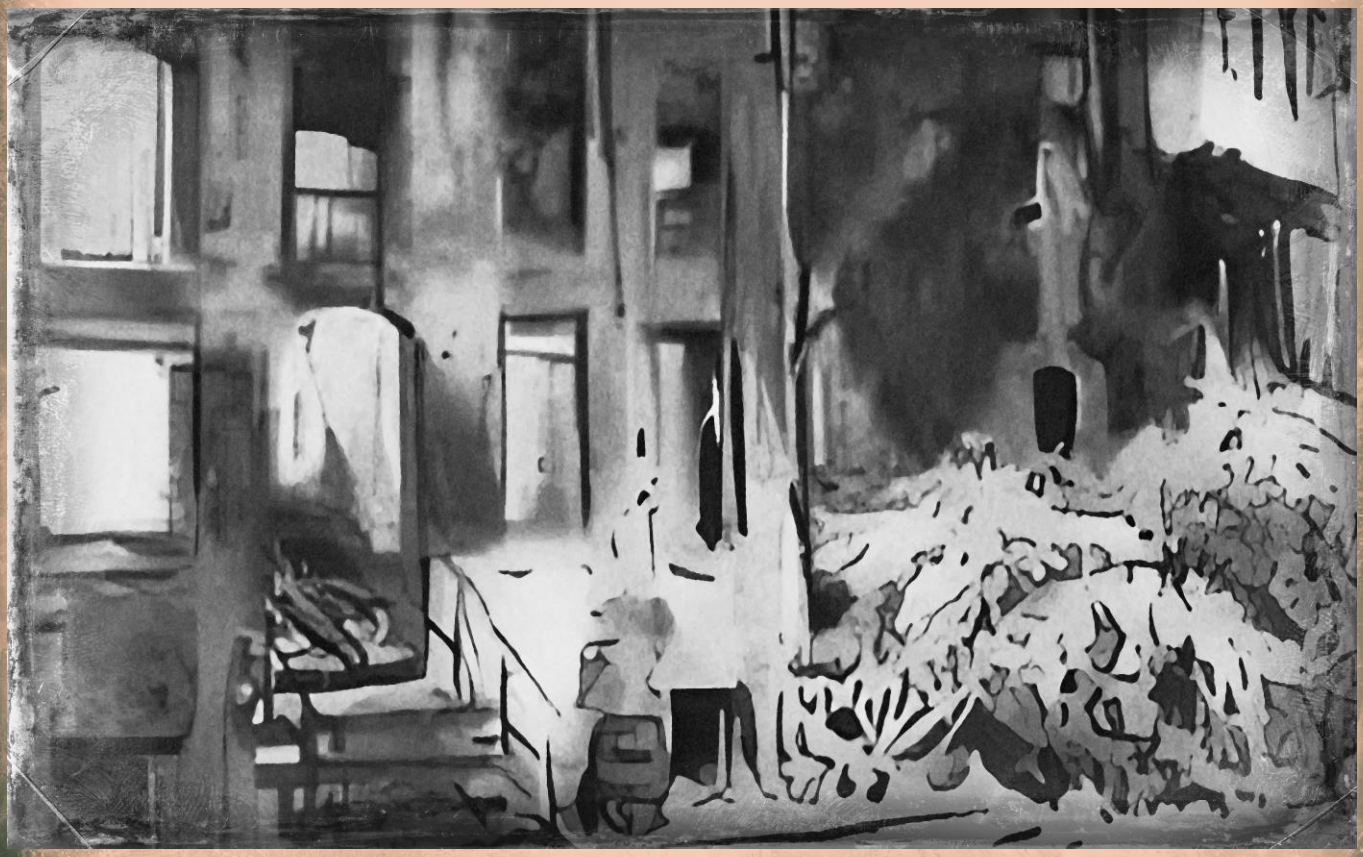
The Colonel enjoyed visiting his troops in their dugouts and explaining in some detail as to the coming battle whenever he could as his way to show the troops that they were all an important part in the bigger plan and was famed for seeming to listen to their comments while reassuring their fears or in addressing their complaints.

Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

Bravery always owes part of its success to good fortune. At the cry of a leader—or In this war at the arrival of "zero hour" on the wrist watches—a whole regiment went forward, nearly every man doing his duty with complete courage. Some heroes were dogged and unimaginative; some revealed Ingenuity or invention.

Emil's HOBO TOURS 1915

Bravery is a form of poetry, drama done in deed(s) instead of words. It has always been lovable and beloved. The fame of bravery is a lottery with a few capital prizes. The winners show perhaps no more wisdom, no more courage than all the other less fortunate gamblers. In the common folk phrase they simply "luck in."



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Our Sargent Major told each new recruit that it was not their place to determine who was right or wrong but, it was for them to deliver them up to God and let him make his own decision.

"Kill or be killed! If you choice unwisely, you will have to explain that to God, in person, without my assistance!"

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Their only sin was that they believed that God demanded them to war against a Godless Germany as the evil, baby killing Kaiser had insulted their King (without knowing that they were both cousins), came seeking adventure or to escape from their 15-hour shifts at their Midlands Factories.

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Franko and Hanz were brothers-in-law and had known each other since primary school. Either had gotten in line with the other young men of their small town. They were both married with families and had little heart to risk life nor fortune to right a wrong by the King of England against their Kaiser.

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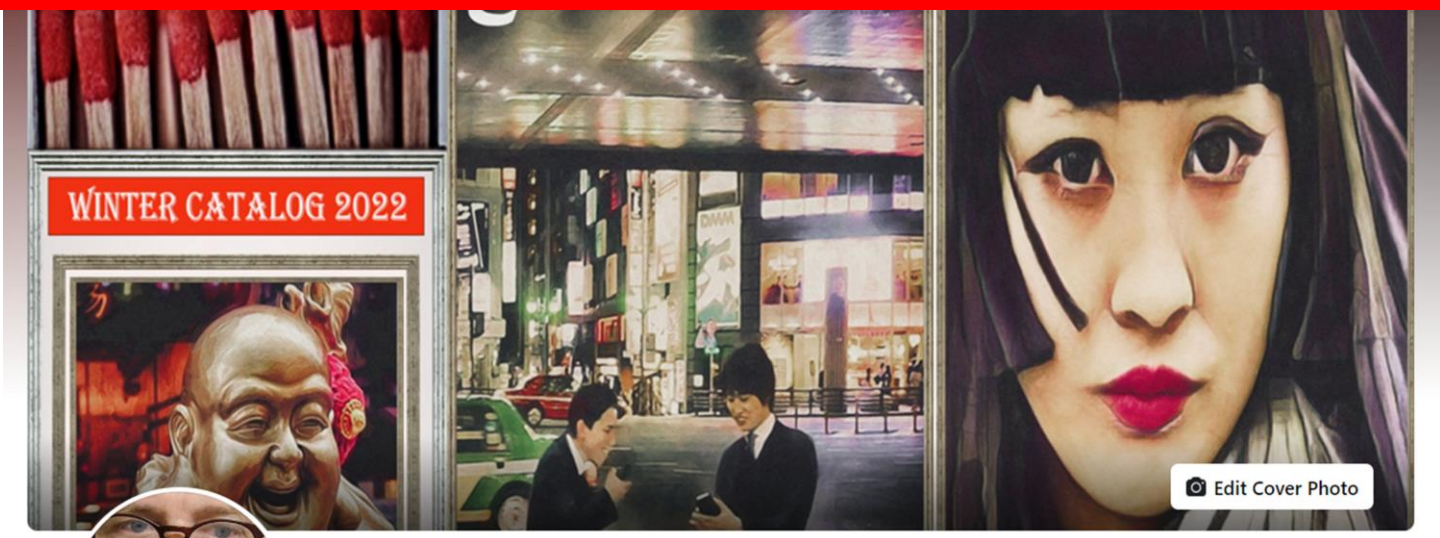
Talking with the new lad as we stood watch and I had to warn him that it was not a wise thing to say when he confess that he didn't have anything against the average German Soldier and I seriously threw a rock at him when he wouldn't shut up about how all soldiers are brothers who should rise up and bring an end to this war.

LIFESTYLES OF THE NOT SO FAMOUS



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Emil West shared a memory.
Just now ·

While (at the time) I never figured that I would have the honor to lunch with Mr. Gandhi...Like...ya just never know!

1 Year Ago
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Emil West is at **Penang Port**.
30 June 2021 · Butterworth ·

Dining with Gandhi...

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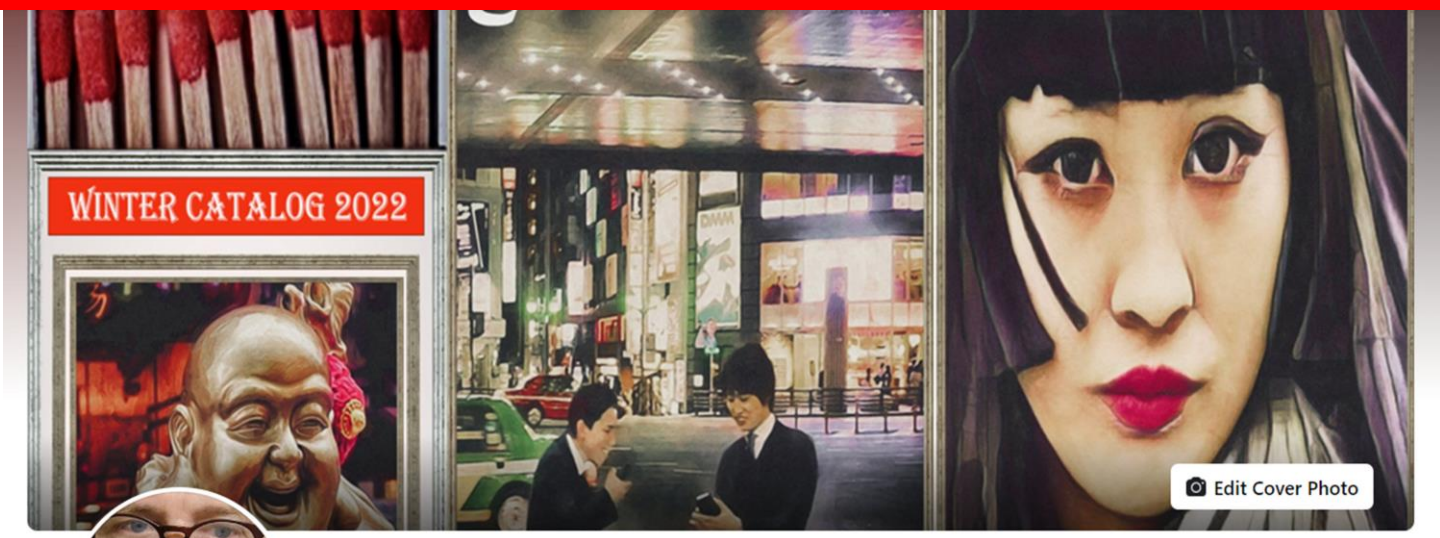

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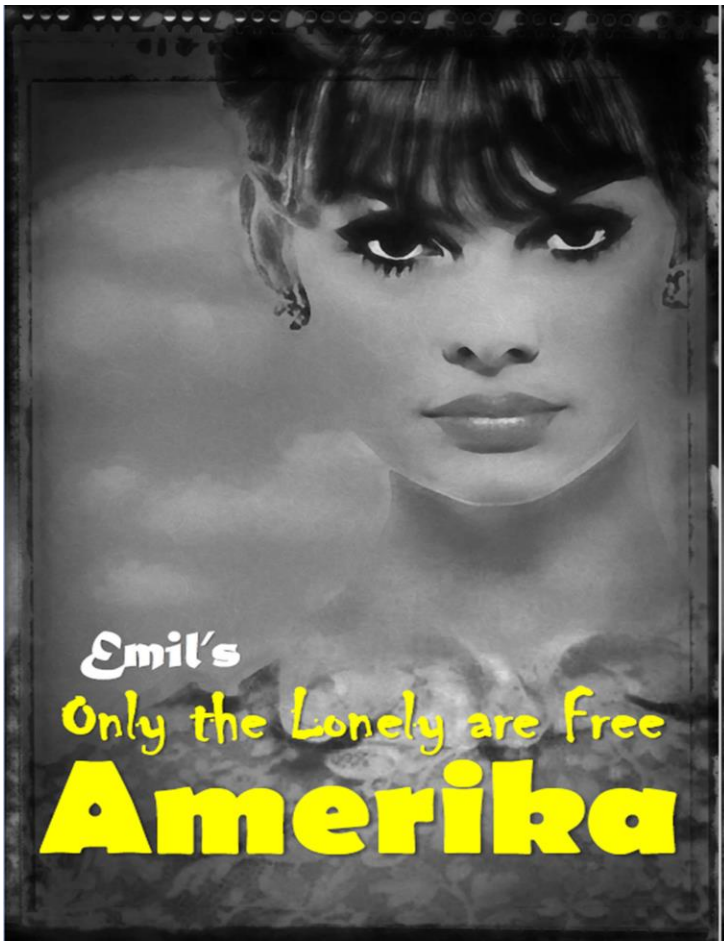

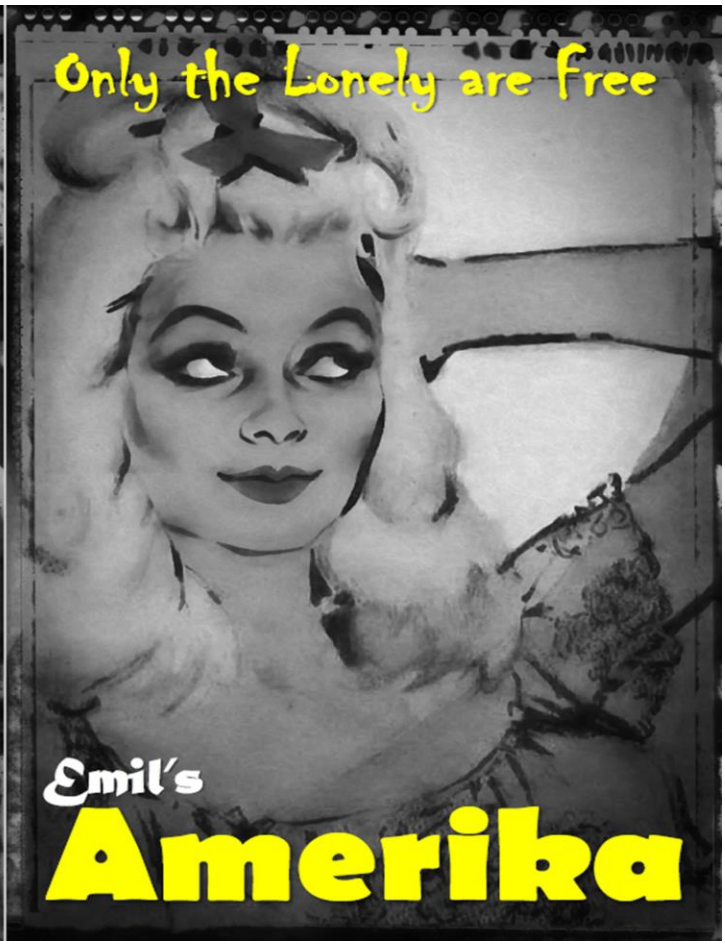

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I'm just a corporate sharecropper, the poor artist at the wrong end of the money stick!

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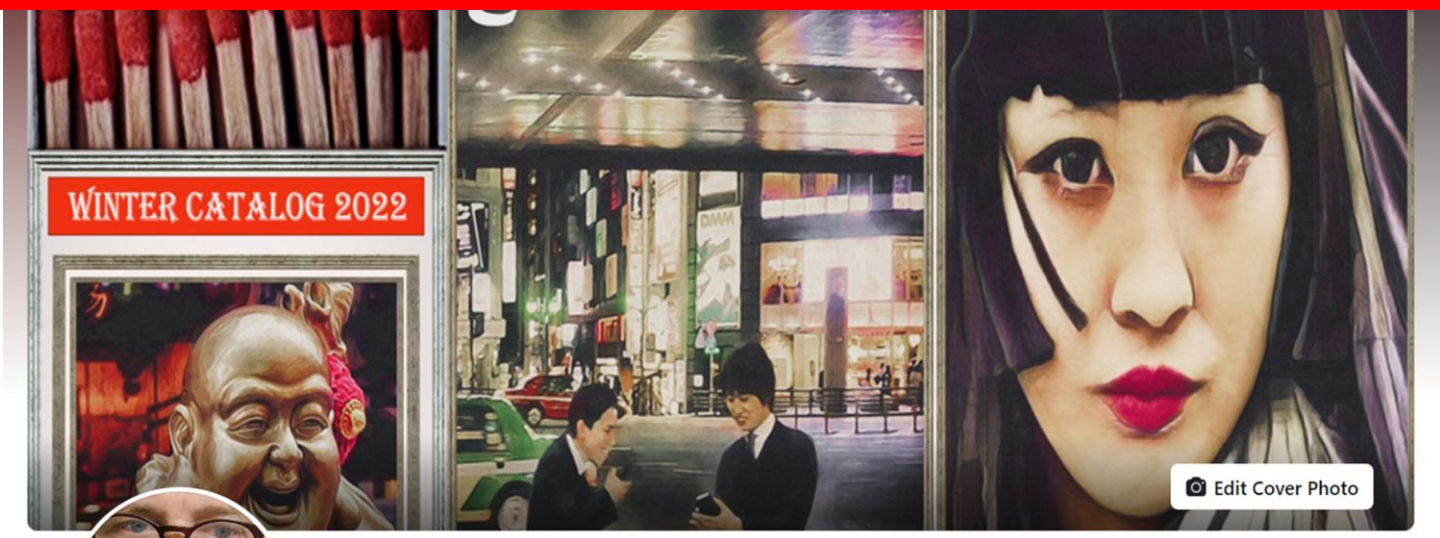

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